



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY PSC LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING IN AQUILA, INC. REQUEST

JEFFERSON CITY--The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold a local public hearing in **Harrisonville, Missouri, on March 15, 2005**, to receive customer comment in a case filed by Aquila, Inc. seeking Commission authority to construct a new power plant in Cass County.

The local public hearing will be held at the Cass County Justice Center, 2501 W. Wall Street. The PSC Staff will hold an informal question and answer session from 5:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The local public hearing is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., or until all who wish to testify have done so, whichever is sooner.

Local public hearings are designed to give customers who may be affected an opportunity to express their views to the Commission on the Company's request. **The Commission has not made any decision on the merits of the application in this case. The information gathered at this local public hearing will become part of the case upon which the Commission will make its decision.**

On January 28, 2005, Aquila, Inc. filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission seeking a certificate of convenience and necessity to provide electric service. Aquila seeks a certificate so that it can build its South Harper Facility and Peculiar Substation in Cass County near Peculiar, Missouri (a peaking power production facility comprising of three natural gas-fired combustion turbines and associated electric transmission substations).

Aquila, Inc. serves approximately 222,000 electric customers in the former Missouri Public Service service territory and approximately 64,000 electric customers in the former St. Joseph Light & Power service area.